#### Addendum

G-IV-A-186 Creedmore Mountain Lake Park Garrett County

Preparer: Richard A. Geidel Date prepared: October 28, 1998

A field view of Creedmore, also known as Sincell Cottage, on January 8, 1997 by KCI Technologies, Inc. indicated no changes to its form or fabric since its previous documentation.

A photograph of Creedmore taken October 25, 1998 accompanies this Addendum.



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### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Creedmore is a large two and one half story frame house built in the Queen Anne style on the corner of G Street and Baltimore Avenue in Mountain Lake Park, Maryland. It is similar in size and general style to many of the late nineteenth century houses within the nearby Mountain Lake Park National Register Historic District. The five bay wide house is built on a T plan with a large two and one half story polygonal gable roofed bay forming the stem of the T. The house is covered with board and batten siding on the first story and fish scale wooden shingles on the second and attic stories, a feature often seen in Mountain Lake Park. The most unusual feature of the exterior is the oddly shaped roofline on the southeast tower with its flaring eaves and oval windows. The floor plan consists of polygonally shaped living and dining rooms and a kitchen, with bedrooms on the second floor. Much of the original oak woodwork and trim has remained and the house is in relatively good, little-altered condition. Alterations are limited to the enclosing of the wrap-around porch on the north side, the addition of service rooms on the west side and the concrete basement.

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#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Creedmore stands on a large, tree-shaded lot on a small rise at the corner of Baltimore Avenue and G Street in Mountain Lake Park, Maryland, two miles east of the Garrett County seat at Oakland. The house lies only a few hundred feet outside the northwest boundary of the Mountain Lake Park National Register Historic District and is compatible in scale and age with many of the other late nineteenth century houses within the district; several incompatible structures on the intervening lots isolate the house from the district.

Creedmore is a two and one half story, five bay, Queen Anne style frame house built on a T plan with a three bay wide, two story, gable roofed polygonal bay forming the stem of the T. A steeply pitched gable roof with a sash window at the attic story of each end intersects at right angles with the gable roof of the polygonal bay. This bay, which extends from the eastern side of the house a few feet beyond its gable, contains the principal entrance to Creedmore. Both the second and attic stories flare slightly at the bottom and extend nearly a foot over the story below; the eaves of the gable roofs also have a slight flare.

The roof on the southeast corner of the house is most unusual, rising to a peak, then flaring out in two stages away from the house. There are two oval windows placed in each of the triangular spaces between the roofline and cornice of the second floor.

The house is covered with board and batten siding on the first story and fish scale cedar shingles on the second and attic stories. The windows are all one over one sash with full window surrounds and architrave, with the exception of the two oval windows on the attic story and the two four-paned oval windows on the second floor of the projecting bay. A large shed roofed wrip-around porch runs along the east and north facades. The north side of the porch has been glassed in and the posts on the front are replacements, the only two significant changes to the exterior of Creedmore.

The plan of the first floor consists of a living room/stair hall, dining room and kitchen, with a bathroom and service rooms to the rear of the house. The large entrance hall which also functions as the main living room was a common feature of houses built in the Queen Anne style and can be traced to English precedents. It contains both the elaborate staircase and a fireplace, the mantel of which is a replacement. The room is polygonal and has oak baseboard and window trim. The window and door trim throughout the house is decorated with an elaborately stylized tulip motif. The ceiling of the hall/living room is covered with narrow width boards stained to match the trim. The main entrance door has a large beveled glass pane with the name "Creedmore" etched on it and is topped by a transom with diamond panes. The bottom half of the door is decorated with modillions and rope molding.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The hall is separated from the dining room by a very wide sliding door with seven horizontal panels. The room has a polygonal end on the north side, in the center of which is a french door with transom leading to the enclosed portion of the porch. The door is flanked on either side by a window. Another door with transom leads into the remodeled kitchen.

An elaborate staircase with oak newel post and balustrade rises in two stages from the south end of the hall. The five bedrooms and one bath are arranged on either side of the central corridor which is lit by a window on each end. All rooms have the same wood trim with tulip motif seen on the first floor. The rooms on the east side are polygonal and each is lit by an oval window.

No major alterations have occurred in the interior. Beside the remodeled kitchen and service areas, the few changes include the insertion of a window on the south side of the kitchen, and the removal of a partition (not original) which blocked off the window on the north side of the hall.

### 8. Significance

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Period prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 —— 1700-1799 —— 1800-1899X 1900-	Areas of Significance—Carcheology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture  X architecture — art — commerce — communications	conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1903-1904	Builder AKCANOCK Cre	ed Collins, builder	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Creedmore is significant as one of the most unusual and best preserved examples of Queen Anne style architecture in Mountain Lake, itself an important collection of turn-of-the-twentieth-century resort houses. Built in 1903-1904, Creedmore has many distinctive architectural features which make it unique in the community, including the oval windows and unusual roofline, as well as the extensive use of shingling. Like other houses in Mountain Lake Park, Creedmore was built as a summer residence and had an extensive wrap-around porch to take advantage of the view from its tree-shaded lot. When the resort at Mountain Lake began to decline in the 1920s, many of the old summer houses were pulled down, particularly in the northern half of the town, and thus Creedmore is an important reminder of this prosperous social and cultural center of nineteenth century Garrett County.

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#### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The Queen Anne style of architecture of which Creedmore is a significant example in Garrett County, enjoyed great popularity for domestic architecture in thk three decades after 1880. Architects during this period exploited the expressive qualities of frame construction as well as the decorative effects of shingles, half timbering and windows.

Designers during the Queen Anne period showed a new awareness of floor plans which emphasized comfort and convenience rather than strict axial symmetry. Rooms, often uninterrupted by doors, flowed into one another and typically were grouped around a large living hall with staircase. As at Creedmore, the hall functioned not only as a room for horizontal and vertical circulation but as an integral part of the living space in the house. Another typical feature of houses from this period is the use of polygonally shaped rooms.

The Queen Anne style of architecture was particularly prevalent in the many resort communities which proliferated in America during the late nineteenth century. It was at summer resorts and suburban retreats throughout the country that architects were most able to translate the demand for picturesque and informally planned houses into wood; frame construction was better suited to these requirements than stone. Porches, often large and rambling and with French doors, were an integral part of these buildings and reflected the growing preference of Americans for indoor-outdoor living.

The resort town in which Creedmore stands, Mountain Lake Park, is of interest both architecturally and historically. Situated on a high plateau in a scenic part of Garrett County known as "the Glades," the town was laid out in 1882 by the landscape architect H. E. Faul, the creator of Druid Hill Park in Baltimore. The street plan consisted of a simple grid combined with several gently curving roads which wound around the small hills in the town. Many of the houses, situated on large tree-shaded lots, were sited to take advantage of the scenery. For many years the site of the annual "Mountain Chautauqua," Mountain Lake Park attracted thousands of visitors, who either stayed at the town's numerous hotels or at homes built on land purchased from the Mountain Lake Home Association. Wealthy families fortunate enough to own their own homes would bring their servants, animals, and, in later years, automobiles via the B & O railroad and spend the entire summer, taking advantage of the numerous recreational, cultural and educational opportunities available.

Creedmore was built in 1903 and 1904 during the height of Mountain Lake Park's popularity, by Mr. and Mrs. Creed Collins of Cairo, West Virginia after Mrs. Collins purchased lots 3999 and 4000 from the Mountain Lake Park Association for \$400 on August 1, 1903. According to a notice in the Oakland Republican, the local newspaper, "Hon. Creed Collins, of Cairo, W. Va. spent the early part of the week at the Park arranging for the building of a modern cottage on the corner of Oakland Drive and G Street. The house will cost about \$3,500."

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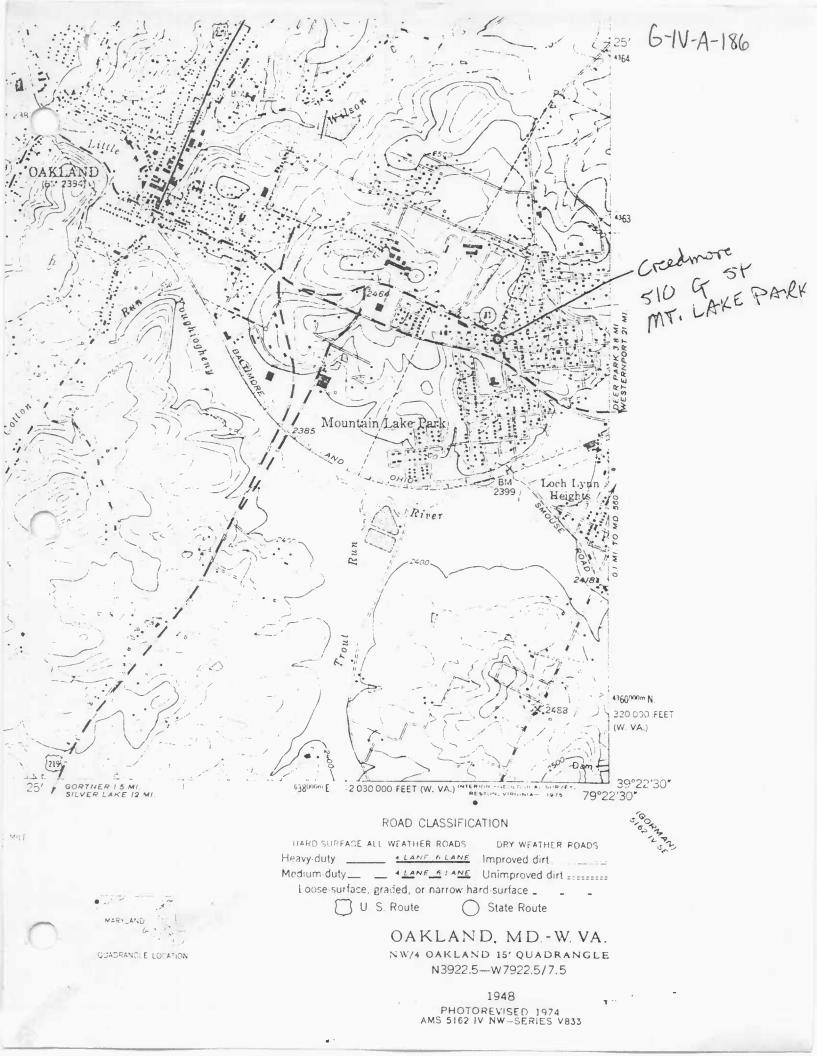
HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

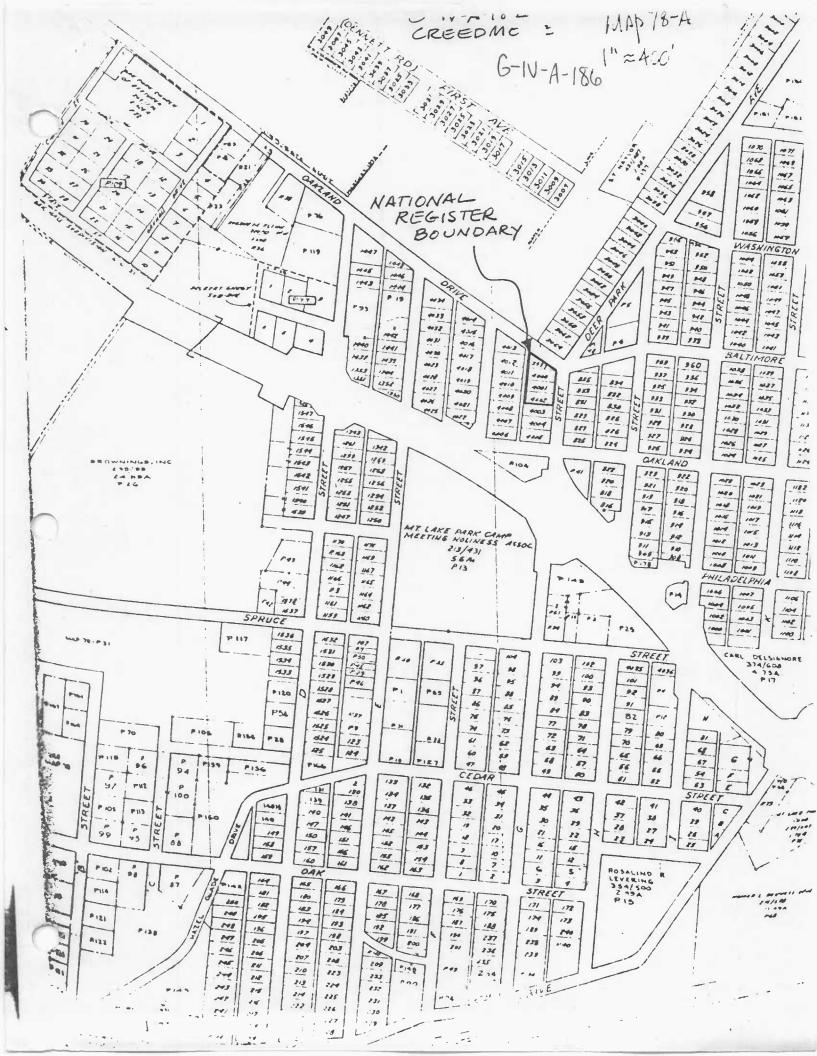
A later article on June 9, 1904 stated that "the Collins Cottage is being made ready for occupancy. It is being wired for electric lights. Bath and sanitary plumbing have been arranged for." The house remained in the Collins family until 1918, when it was sold for \$2,800 and thereafter passed through a series of owners. The present owners bought the property in 1977 and have undertaken a thorough restoration program since that time.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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11. For	m Prepared By				
name/title	Geoffrey Henry				
organization	Maryland Historical Tru	st	date Ma	rch 1984	
street & number	21 State Circle		telephone	(301) 269-2438	
city or town	Annapolis		state	Maryland 21401	
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